

As introduced into cultivation from southern Oregon, this creamy-flowered, glaucous-foliaged plant called *D. oregana* is an undeniably charming thing, by no means easily established in Eastern gardens, where it is likely either to dwindle slowly or, if it "takes hold," to revert to the condition indicated above. Reports of "pink *D. oregana*" in Oregon and Washington gardens suggest that the reversion takes place in that part of the country as well. Examination of reverted material reveals no differential characters sufficient to distinguish it from the somewhat variable *D. formosa* for it has the spreading rhizome, the form of stigma, the short-spreading outer petals, the scarcely protruding inner ones, and flower color characteristic of this species. Since the plant known as *D. oregana* apparently reverts rather easily to *D. formosa* it appears, therefore, to be only a phase of this and not worthy of specific rank. The following nomenclature change is therefore suggested:

DICENTRA FORMOSA (Dryand.) Walp., forma *oregana* (Eastw.)
van Melle, comb. nov.

Dicentra oregana Eastw. Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci. **20**: 144. 1931.

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An Introduced Ladysthumb from Asia

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During recent years a good bit of interest has been aroused among local botanists by the appearance and rapid spread of an Asiatic weed, the bristly ladysthumb, ***Persicaria longiseta*** (De Bruyn) Moldenke, comb. nov. [*Polygonum longisetum* De Bruyn in Miq., Pl. Jungh. 307. 1854]. As far as I am aware, it is not listed in any of our current manuals or local floras, although, as will be shown below, it has been in the country for at least thirty-one years. The first published record of its occurrence in America seems to be by Harger *et al.* in their "Additions to the flora of Connecticut" published in Bull. Conn. Geol. & Nat. Hist. Surv. **48**: 43 (1930). This was followed by a discussion by Dr. S. F. Blake entitled "*Polygonum caespitosum* var. *longisetum* in the United States" in

Rhodora **34**: 146-147 (1932), and another by Walter M. Benner in *Bartonia* **15**: 33 (1933). These published articles list about twenty localities in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, the earliest record being one from 1922.

Since this time many additional localities for the plant have been recorded by wide-awake collectors, so that now it is known definitely from at least eighty-eight places in the eastern states. A number of earlier records have also been discovered. Its rapid spread seems to indicate that it will soon be a very common weed in America. It seems desirable, therefore, to record fully at this time all that is known of its earliest history here, and to trace, if possible, the course of its spread year by year.

Persicaria longiseta seems to have been found first in America by Edwin B. Bartram (*no. 1312*) at Wayne, Delaware Co., Pa., on October 13, 1910. The second record is one by L. H. Lighthipe, who found it as an escape in the garden of Manda's at South Orange, Essex Co., N. J., on October 15, 1912. The next five records were made by W. C. Ferguson, who found it along roadsides at Garden City, Nassau Co., N. Y., on July 1, 1918; in woods at Plattsdale, N. Y., July 2, 1919; again at Garden City on August 16, 1920; along roadside and in a yard at Wading River, Suffolk Co., N. Y., June 21, 1922 (*no. 1462*); and again at Garden City on August 16, 1922, where he says it was already a common weed.

On July 12, 1924, H. E. Stone found it in moist ground of a gutter, Rosemont, Montgomery Co., Pa. On September 21, 1926, William Trimble collected it at West Chester, Chester Co., Pa., and on August 10, 1927, again along streets in West Chester. Dr. E. H. Eames, on October 7, 1927, found it on an old estate at Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., and at several points in much disturbed property nearby. The same collector located a large colony in a moist shaded low spot near a house at Greenwich, Fairfield Co., Conn., on September 3, 1929.

In 1930 four more records were added. On September 6 H. E. Stone found it in a garden (presumably as a weed) on Washington Street, West Chester, Pa.; on September 18 E. H. Eames found another large colony along a shaded moist roadside at Greenwich, Conn.; on September 27 H. E. Stone collected it from a moist spot

in the serpentine barrens north of West Chester, Pa.; and on October 4 O. E. Jennings discovered it at Hartwick, Allegheny Co., Pa. The year 1931 brought a number of additional localities to light. Dr. S. F. Blake found the plant on August 16 (*no. 11379*) and September 6 (*no. 11398*) in five or more separate spots up to half a mile apart at Stoughton, Norfolk Co., Mass. On June 9 of that year Bayard Long found it on a dumping ground, Harrison Avenue near Mill Road, Elkins Park, Montgomery Co., Pa. (*no. 35249*). In October Dr. Jennings found it at Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., Pa., and on November 1 S. F. Blake discovered two thriving colonies at Washington, D. C.—the southernmost station thus far recorded.

On July 19, 1932, E. H. Eames found it along the border of a gravel path, summit of West Rock, New Haven, New Haven Co., Conn. (*no. 11451*). On August 13 F. J. Hermann collected it in maple woods along the Delaware River, half a mile north of Riverton, Burlington Co., N. J. (*no. 3645*). W. M. Benner found it on the bank of a roadside ditch at Andalusia, Bucks Co., Pa., on September 24 (*no. 4655*), while on September 29 Dr. Eames found another small colony at New Haven. On October 30, 1932, Dr. Francis W. Pennell discovered it for the first time along a shaded, stony path on his place at Moylan, Delaware Co., Pa. (*no. 16135*).

From this point on the records begin to pile up rapidly. The following is a chronological listing of them:

- 1933: October 8—weed about garage, 6511 North 8th Street, Oak Lane, Philadelphia, Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 6227*.
- 1934: June 21—weedy waste off Burr Road, Bridgeport, Fairfield Co., Conn., *E. H. Eames 11621*.
 September 16—in moist open lot on South Street, Morristown, Morris Co., N. J., *R. H. True 395*.
 October 10—muddy bank along Newton Creek, Oaklyn, Camden Co., N. J., *B. Long 44957*.
 October 20—border of Wissahickon Drive, Wissahickon Creek near Hartwell Avenue, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia Co., Pa., *B. Long 45118*.
 October 30—woodland, Moylan, Delaware Co., Pa., *F. W. Pennell*.
- 1935: June 11—moist ground, down slope on Sharp and Dohme property, Glenolden, Delaware Co., Pa., *E. C. Earle 353*.
 June 25—Glenolden, Delaware Co., Pa., *E. C. Earle*.
 August 19—waste ground by University of Pennsylvania Botanical Garden near 36th and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, Pa., *B. Long 47390*.
 October 12—shaded roadside bank along Bryn Mawr Avenue, half a mile southwest of Bryn Mawr, Delaware Co., Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 10029*.

- October 19—path through woods along Darby Creek, North Springfield, Delaware Co., Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 10064.*
- 1936: June 20—roadside, Glenloch Station (P. R. R.), Chester Co., Pa., *H. E. Stone.*
- September 5—along street curbing, Albany, Albany Co., N. Y., *H. D. House 24068.*
- September 5—common along east bank of Wissahickon Creek north of Bells Mill Road, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia Co., Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 11369.*
- September 22—Morristown, Morris Co., N. J., *R. H. True.*
- September 29—waste ground along south side of Cherry Street east of 19th, Philadelphia, Pa., *W. M. Benner 7492.*
- 1937: July 6—4111 Bolt Avenue, West Philadelphia, Philadelphia Co., Pa., *R. H. True 4174.*
- October 17—Wissahickon Creek and Westview Avenue, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia Co., Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 11374.*
- 1938: September 15—Wyomissing, Berks Co., Pa., *Hans Wilkens 5692.*
- October 9—under trees along the Wyomissing road, *H. Wilkens 5727.*
- October 10—West Chester, Chester Co., Pa., *R. H. True 6542.*
- October 14—Merion, Montgomery Co., Pa., *R. H. True 6542.*
- 1939: June 3— $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of Haverford Post Office, Delaware Co., Pa., *R. L. Schaeffer 1696.*
- June 20—3 miles northeast of Liverpool, Perry Co., Pa., *F. R. Fosberg 16292.*
- July 6—alluvial bank along Pleasant Run, within 1 mile northwest of Pleasant Run, Hunterdon Co., N. J., *W. M. Benner 8719.*
- July 6—1 mile northwest of Pleasant Run, Hunterdon Co., N. J., *W. M. Benner 8718.*
- July 15—South Queen Lane Station, Germantown, Philadelphia Co., Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 16266.*
- September 2—on a moist grassy slope near Somerset, Mercer Co., N. J., *W. M. Benner 8954.*
- September 4—along Musconetcong River above Warren Glen, Hunterdon Co., N. J., *B. Long 53845.*
- September 6—grassy strip along sidewalk at Foulkrod and Harrocks Streets, Frankford, Philadelphia Co., Pa., *W. M. Benner 9060.*
- September 20—half a mile southwest of Haverford, Montgomery Co., Pa., *R. L. Schaeffer 5633.*
- October 8—alluvial woods along Schuylkill River, West Manayunk, Montgomery Co., Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 16423.*
- October 8—one mile northwest of West Manayunk, Montgomery Co., Pa., *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 16480.*
- 1940: June 23—great masses in a moist ditch at the foot of a cliff paralleling the Hudson River in Palisades Interstate Park, Bergen Co., N. J., *H. N. Moldenke 11356.*
- September 19—edge of field on Church Road, half mile northwest of Wynnewood Station, Montgomery Co., Pa., *E. Perot Walker 2271.*

- October 3—open grassy roadside, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile west of Rowlandsville, Cecil Co., Md., *R. R. Tatnall 4702*.
- 1941: August 15—common as a weed on the grounds of the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, Bronx Co., N. Y., *Joseph Monachino [H. N. Moldenke 11747]*.
- September 7—along a roadside at Seeley's Notch, Somerset Co., near Scotch Plains, N. J., *H. N. Moldenke 11793*.
- September 9—grounds of the New York Botanical Garden, a common weed, Bronx Park, Bronx Co., N. Y., *Joseph Monachino [H. N. Moldenke 11811 and 11813, the first-mentioned collection is of diseased plants]*.

Mr. Louis E. Hand, in a letter to me dated September 15, 1941, says: "my acquaintance with it [*Persicaria longisetata*] is rather local in scope, as I haven't seen it except within a relatively short distance of Philadelphia and in Bucks Co., Pa. It is fairly common in the city and suburbs. Mr. O. H. Brown, of Cape May, N. J., told me in August of this year that he just recently collected it in his county for the first time."

Persicaria longisetata is an annual species with nearly prostrate to erect stems, usually with a reddish-purple cast. The leaves are lanceolate to narrowly ovate, spotted or rather obscurely spotted in the middle, pellucid-punctate, short-petioled or sessile, 5-12 cm. long. The spikes are slender, usually basally interrupted, rather deep pink in color. The achenes are smaller than those of any of the native species with which it could be confused, being only 1.8-2 mm. long, and are always trigonous and shining. The ocreae are terminated by long, firm bristles, which are 4-8 mm. long and about equal or often surpass the sheath itself in length.

The species is a native of subtropical and tropical eastern Asia, from China and Japan, through the Philippine Islands, to Java and Sumatra. It is known also under the names *Polygonum caespitosum* var. *longisetum* (De Bruyn) A. N. Steward, *P. Donii* var. *longisetum* (De Bruyn) Miq., *P. Blumei* Meisn., *P. buisanense* Ohki, *Persicaria Gentiliana* Lévl., and *Persicaria buisanensis* (Ohki) Sasaki. Ferguson distributed his specimens to the Local Herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden under the name "*Persicaria longisetata* (De Bruyn) Meisn.," but I am unable to find that this combination was ever published either by Meisner or by anyone else to date.

A summary of the herbarium material cited above, geographically arranged, is given herewith. The abbreviations in parentheses

indicate the herbarium in which the specimen is deposited [Cm = Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh; D = Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia; G = Gray Herbarium, Cambridge; J = Brooklyn Botanic Garden; N = New York Botanical Garden; Up = University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; W = United States National Herbarium, Washington]. MASSACHUSETTS: Norfolk Co.: *S. F. Blake 11379* (W), *11398* (W), *s.n.* [Stoughton] (G). CONNECTICUT: Fairfield Co.: *E. H. Eames 11621* (G), *s.n.* [Greenwich, 10/7/27] (G), *s.n.* [Greenwich, 9/3/29] (G), *s.n.* [Greenwich, 9/18/30] (G); New Haven Co.: *Eames 11451* (G). NEW YORK: Albany Co.: *H. D. House 24068* (G, Up); Bronx Co.: *J. Monachino s.n.* [*H. N. Moldenke 11747*] (N), *s.n.* [*Moldenke 11811*] (N), *s.n.* [*Moldenke 11813*] (N); Nassau Co.: *W. C. Ferguson s.n.* [Garden City, 7/1/18] (N), *s.n.* [Garden City, 8/16/20] (N), *s.n.* [Garden City, 8/16/22] (G); Suffolk Co.: *Ferguson 1462* (N); County undetermined: *Ferguson s.n.* [Plattsdale, 7/2/19] (N). NEW JERSEY: Bergen Co.: *Moldenke 11356* (N); Burlington Co.: *F. J. Hermann 3645* (D); Camden Co.: *B. Long 44957* (D, Up); Essex Co.: *L. H. Light-hipe s.n.* [Manda's, 10/15/12] (J); Hunterdon Co.: *W. M. Benner 8718* (D), *8719* (G); *Long 53845* (D); Mercer Co.: *Benner 8954* (D, G, N); Morris Co.: *R. H. True 395* (J, Up), *s.n.* [Morristown, 9/22/36] (Up); Somerset Co.: *Moldenke 11793* (N). PENNSYLVANIA: Allegheny Co.: *O. E. Jennings s.n.* [Hartwick, 10/4/30] (Cm, Up), *s.n.* [Pittsburgh, 10/31] (Cm, Up); Berks Co.: *H. Wilkens 5692* (Up), *5727* (D); Bucks Co.: *Benner 4655* (D); Chester Co.: *H. E. Stone s.n.* [Glenloch, 6/20/36] (D), *s.n.* [West Chester, 9/27/30] (D), *s.n.* [West Chester, 9/6/30] (D); *W. Trimble s.n.* [West Chester, 9/21/26] (D), *s.n.* [West Chester, 8/10/27] (D, G); *True 6542* (Up); Delaware Co.: *E. B. Bartram 1312* (D); *E. C. Earle 353* (D, Up), *s.n.* [Glenolden] (Up), *J. M. Fogg, Jr., 10029* (D, Up), *10064* (Up); *F. W. Pennell 16135* (G), *s.n.* [Moylan, 10/30/34] (D); *R. L. Schaeffer 1696* (D); Montgomery Co.: *Fogg 16423* (Up), *16480* (Up); *Long 35249* (D); *Schaeffer 5633* (D); *Stone s.n.* [Rosemont, 7/12/24] (D); *True 6542* (Up); *E. P. Walker 2271* (D); Perry Co.: *F. R. Fosberg 16292* (Up); Philadelphia Co.: *Benner 7492* (D, Up), *9060* (D); *Fogg 6227* (D, Up), *11369* (D, Up), *11374* (Up), *16266* (Up); *Long 45118* (D), *47390* (D); *True 4174* (Up). MARYLAND: Cecil Co.: *R. R. Tatnall 4702* (G).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: *Blake s.n.* [Washington, 11/1/31] (W, W).

H. N. Moldenke 11812, collected by Joseph Monachino in waste ground on the grounds of the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, on September 9, 1941, is huskier than the other material from this locality and has paler and more attenuate spikes. It is also common as a weed on the Botanical Garden grounds and seems quite distinct from *P. longiseta* in the field. It may very possibly represent some related form. Mr. Monachino has kindly supplied me with the following field notes about these two forms of the species: "There are on the grounds of the New York Botanical Garden two kinds of *Persicaria* that closely resemble each other in technical characters and neither of which answers to the description of any species described in current manuals of the region. These have features overlapping in all respects if the measurements of their parts are taken *in toto* and without interpretation—if, for instance, a depauperate individual of one is compared with an oversized individual of the other. Furthermore, these two kinds of *Persicaria* actually do intergrade at critical points, probably because of hybridization, but in general the colony or population of one is so clearly distinct from the population of the other that there is no doubt to the field student that the two represent separate entities. These two forms we here designate 'long-spiked' and 'short-spiked.' The 'long-spiked' form [*Moldenke 11812*], which is far more common here and is the form seen abundantly throughout the city and the immediate vicinity of New York, has the length of the typical flowering spike about 3.5 cm.; the length of the leaf-ocreae 10-11 mm., with their fringe-bristles 11-12 mm. long; and the leaf-blades 8.8-10 cm. long and 2.4-3 cm. broad. The 'short-spiked' form [*Moldenke 11747*] has the length of the spike 1.75-2.5 cm.; leaf-ocreae 6-7 mm., with bristles 6-8 mm.; and blades 5.5-7 cm. long and about 2 cm. broad. These measurements are only of typical specimens as seen in the field; the inflorescences are given their maximum lengths and the vegetative parts noted are those found at about the middle of the stems. In general habit the 'long-spiked' form is more robust than the 'short-spiked' form, darker green, the bristles frequently pink or red, the inflorescences more pointed at the tips, and comes into optimum bloom about two weeks later."

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